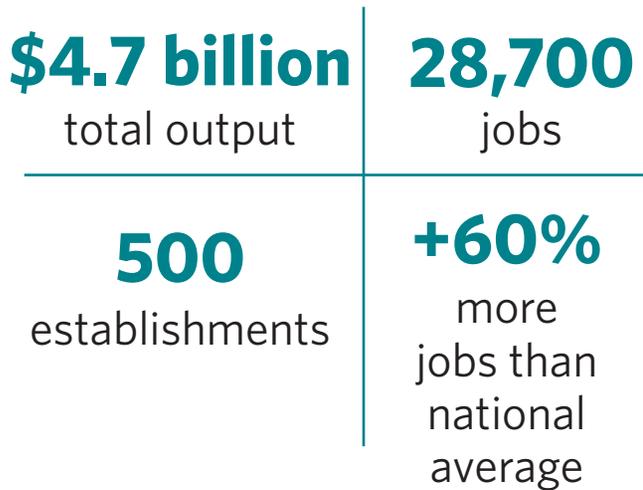


Plastics

This cluster manufactures plastic materials, components, resins, and products, as well as the industrial machines used to manufacture plastics. The technical report, *Metropolitan Chicago's traded industry clusters*, offers extensive data on the characteristics and performance of the Chicago region's core industrial assets since 2001, available for download at <https://cmap.is/Traded-Clusters>.

In the Chicago region in 2017, this cluster consisted of



Source: CMAP analysis of Economic Modeling Specialists International data (Emsi 2018.4).

Workers in this cluster tend to be **more** racially diverse than the regional labor force.

54% non-white

33% female

38% over age 50

4%
commute
by transit

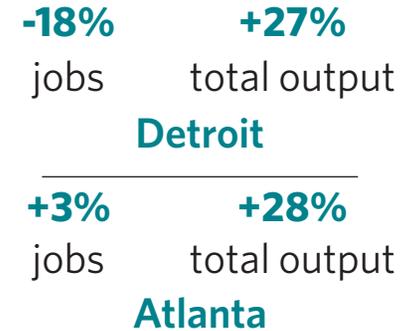


Source: CMAP analysis of Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2017 American Community Survey data.

Largest occupations

- Assembler and Fabricators
- Machine Setters
- Hand Packagers
- Inspectors and Testers
- First-Line Supervisors

In recent years, the cluster's competitive position **held steady** as it remained **specialized** in the national context.



Source: CMAP analysis of Economic Modeling Specialists International data (Emsi 2018.4).
Note: Job change is from 2001-17, and total output change is from 2007-17.

Middle-skill workers have **greater** opportunity than the regional average.



28%

of workers
have an associate's
degree or higher



58%

of jobs typically
require at least
2 months of
on-the-job training

Source: CMAP analysis of Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2017 American Community Survey and Economic Modeling Specialists International data (Emsi 2018.4).

In 2016, this cluster generated approximately

\$39.5 billion

in freight shipments that originate, terminate, or circulate regionally.

Freight mode share, by value



Freight trade geography, by value



16%

Chicago
region



30%

Midwest



39%

Rest of
U.S.



14%

Global

Source: CMAP analysis of Freight Analysis Framework data (FAF 4.4.1).
Note: Data includes only the Illinois portion of the U.S. Census Bureau combined statistical area. Freight data is not provided for service clusters.